

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 02464 252224Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----252226Z 113412 /63

O 252055Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4059

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 2464

EXDIS

FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FROM POPPER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC SHUM CI

SUBJECT: W/W GABRIELA LORCA, WIFE OF CARLOS LORCA TOBAR

REF: STATE 59248; SANTIAGO 2283

1. EMBASSY LOCATED GABRIELA LORCA AT HER PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT, THE ESTADIO ITALIANO, SUGGESTED BY DEPARTMENT IN TELCON. SHE MET WITH EMBOFF 1630 MARCH 25, MYSTIFIED AND WORRIED ABOUT WHY WE WANTED TO SEE HER.

2. MRS LORCA FIRST SAID SHE COULD NOT ACCOUNT FOR FATHER-IN-LAW'S CONCERN. EMBOFF PRESSED FOR SLIGHTEST UNUSAL EVENT WHICH COULD HAVE CAUSED ALARM. SHE THEN MENTIONED THAT GOC INVESTIGATORS HAD VISITED HER FATHER'S HOME (WHERE SHE RESIDES) EARLY IN THE WEEK OF MARCH 15. ACCORDING TO MRS LORCA, TWO WELL DRESSED AND POLITE YOUNG MEN, IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES AS WITH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (EUPHEMISM FOR DINA), CALLED ON HER FATHER WHILE SHE WAS AT WORK. THEY ASKED HIM TO VERIFY HER SIGNATURE ON A PETITION WHICH HAD BEEN FILED WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT MARCH 8. (PETITION REQUESTS HIM TO SEEK FROM PRESIDENT PINOCHET A CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF 501 MISSING PERSONS. SOME 1800 PEOPLE SIGNED IT.) AT NO TIME DID
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THE AGENTS DO ANYTHING TO IMPLY A THREAT TO MRS LORCA OR HER FAMILY, INDEED, ACCORDING TO MRS LORCA, SHE APPEARED TO BE SINCERELY INTERESTED IN TAKING DOWN THE FACTS SURROUNDING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CARLOS JR.

3. FYI EMBOFF ALSO DIRECTED THE CONVERSATION TO THE FAMILY'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH SWINDLERS PROMISE'S TO PRODUCE LORCA--CLEARLY

A SENSITIVE MATTER AS FAR AS MRS LORCA WAS CONCERNED--TO
DETERMINE IF THERE HAD BEEN TROUBLE ON THAT SCORE. THE
ANSWER WAS NO. END FYI

4. EMBOFF GAVE MRS LORCA HIS HOME AND OFFICE PHONE NUMBER AND
ASSURED HER THAT SHE COULD CALL UPON US IF THE SITUATION
CHANGED. WE HAD IMPRESSION THAT MRS LORCA WAS A BIT UNCOMFORTABLE
ABOUT THE WHOLE INCIDENT.

5. COMMENT: MRS LORCA'S ACCOUNT OF THE VISIT BY GOVERNMENT
AGENTS CORRESPONDES WITH REPORTS WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM OTHER
SIGNERS OF THE PETITION. WE HAVE NOT HEARD OF ANY THREATS OR
REPRISALS AGAINST SIGNERS.

6. WHEHER OR NOT MRS LORCA WAS BEING COMPLETELY CANDID, AND WE
HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SHE WAS NOT, OUR EFFORTS TO
LOCATE HER AND OUR MEETING WITH HER PROVIDE UNAMBIGUOUS EVIDENCE
OF USG TO ANY WHO MIGHT BE WATCHING.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

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